

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 NEA-10 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 SCI-06 STR-08 CEA-02 DRC-01

CIEP-02 /187 W

----- 122980

R 141100Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3638

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASS THE HAGUE

UNCLAS LUXEMBOURG 0779

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LU

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWS GOL FOREIGN POLICY

1. ON NOVEMBER 13 FOREIGN MINISTER GASTON THORN MADE A LENGTHY PRESENTATION OF THE OUTLINES OF GOL FOREIGN POLICY TO THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES AS PART OF THE ANNUAL DEBATE ON THE MFA BUDGET. THORN WAS FORTHRIGHT ON SEVERAL POINTS OF CURRENT INTEREST WHICH ARE LISTED BELOW:

A. THORN STATED THAT THE NOVEMBER 6 EC DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST "IS WITHOUT DOUBT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES THAN TO ISRAEL. THIS IS NOT SURPRISING

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BECAUSE ISRAEL OCCUPIES A BETTER PART OF THE DISPUTED

TERRITORY AND THEREFORE MUST MAKE THE GREAT CONCESSIONS".

B. REGARDING THE EC SUMMIT MEETING IN DECEMBER, THORN SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER WERNER HAD SUGGESTED TO FRENCH PRESIDENT POMPIDOU THAT THE MEETING REVIEW THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE OBJECTIVES SET AT THE EC SUMMIT MEETING IN PARIS OF OCTOBER 1972. THORN ADDED THAT THE DECEMBER SUMMIT SHOULD HAVE A FIXED AGENDA, AND THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD MEET TO PREPARE THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE SESSIONS AND BE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ANY DECISIONS MADE IN COPENHAGEN. FURTHER, THE EC COMMISSION SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THE SUMMIT TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THOSE AREAS OF ITS COMPETENCE.

C. THORN STRONGLY UPBRAIDED THOSE EC MEMBER NATIONS WHO ARE RELUCTANT TO HAVE THE EC MOVE ON TO THE SECOND PHASE OF ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION AS SCHEDULED ON JANUARY 1, 1974.

D. THORN SAID THAT THE GOL FAVORED THE EC COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE POWERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

E. THORN LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THE GOL WOULD VIGOROUSLY DEFEND THE CHOICE OF LUXEMBOURG AS THE SITE FOR THE MONETARY COOPERATION FUND WHEN THIS DECISION COMES UP FOR REVIEW SOMETIME BEFORE JUNE 30, 1975.

F. REFERRING TO THE RECENT MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, THORN SAID THAT FOR EC POLITICAL COOPERATION TO BECOME A REALITY, EC STATESMEN SHOULD REFRAIN FROM "IMPETUOUS AND EMBARRASSING" PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH ULTIMATELY AFFECT ALL THE EC MEMBER NATIONS.

G. STRONGLY ENDORSING THE CURRENT EC-US DIALOGUE, THORN COMMENTED THAT THE EC "MUST FIRST AGREE ON COMMON POSITIONS ALTHOUGH THIS EXERCISE IS OFTEN MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES."

H. COMPLIMENTING FRENCH "REALISM" IN ADOPTING A MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE WITH REGARD TO NATO, THORN ADDED THAT RECENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS WITHIN NATO ON MIDDLE EAST POLICIES WERE ACCIDENTAL AND WOULD NOT SERIOUSLY THREATEN WESTERN UNITY.

I. IN A LENGTHY COMMENT ON CSCE THORN INSISTED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FREE EXCHANGE OF PEOPLE AND IDEAS. THORN POINTEDLY CRITICIZED THE EASTERN COUNTRIES FOR THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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RELUCTANCE TO GRANT MINIMAL PERSONAL FREEDOMS AND HE IMPLIED THAT PROGRESS ON THE "THIRD BASKET" IN CSCE WOULD BE A BELLWETHER FOR A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS.

J. THORN WARMLY PRAISED THE OPERATION OF THE BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION AND HE SIGNALED OUT THE "PERFECT SOLIDARITY WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN (BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG) REGARDING OIL SUPPLIES -- THIS CORNERSTONE OF AN INDISTRICTABLE

COOPERATION TODAY".

2. AFTER THORN COMPLETED HIS PRESENTATION, HIS LIBERAL PARTY COLLEAGUE AND CLOSE POLITICAL ASSOCIATE, LUXEMBOURG MAYOR COLETTE FLESCH, TOOK THE FLOOR AND MADE SEVERAL COMMENTS WHICH WE INTERPRET AS A "LOGICAL EXTENSION" OF THORN'S REMARKS. FLESCH CRITICIZED THE EC DIVISIONS OVER THE RECENT MIDDLE EAST WAR AND SHE CHARACTERIZED THE EC AS LACKING IN "COURAGE AND IMAGINATION". SHE SAID THAT EUROPE WAS OF NO MORE HELP TO HOLLAND IN 1973 THAN IT HAD BEEN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1938, AND SHE SAID THAT AS A SMALL COUNTRY LUXEMBOURG UNDERSTANDS THE NEED FOR ISRAEL TO HAVE ITS EXISTENCE FULLY RECOGNIZED AND GUARANTEED. MISS FLESCH CALLED ON THE GOL TO PRESS THE EC CHIEFS OF GOVERNMENT TO GRANT GREATER BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (WHERE SHE SITS). NOTING THE PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST FRG PRESIDENT GUSTAV HEINEMANN WHO WILL BE MAKING A STATE VISIT ON NOVEMBER 27 AND 28, FLESCH COMMENTED THAT WHILE LUXEMBOURG COULD NEVER FORGET THE NAZI OCCUPATION, THE FRG PRESIDENT IS PERFECTLY JUSTIFIED IN COMING AND SHOULD BE RECEIVED WITH DIGNITY.

3. COMPLETE TEXT OF THORN'S SPEECH AND MFA STATEMENT ON ITS ACTIVITIES FROM SEPTEMBER 16, 1972, THROUGH SEP. 15, 1973, BEING POUCHED TO EUR/WE.FARKAS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT BUDGET, PETROLEUM, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, SPEECHES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LUXEMB00779
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LUXEMBOURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731135/aaaaazfz.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <25-Jan-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWS GOL FOREIGN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, LU, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005